

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A support bracket assembly for supporting a hanging item, comprising:

a plurality of mounting brackets each having a first end adapted to be secured to a vertically extending object having an outer perimeter and a second end adapted to be mounted in a position horizontally spaced away from said outer perimeter, said second end including means for supporting a hanging item, said mounting brackets adapted to be spaced around said perimeter; and

a load supporting member adapted to be positioned encircling and spaced a horizontal distance around said object, said load supporting member being connected to each of said mounting brackets and vertically displaced from said first ends thereof.

~~at least one mounting bracket configured to contact a vertically extending object; and~~

~~a load supporting member positioned at a horizontal distance around said object and connected to said at least one mounting bracket.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The[[A]] support bracket assembly as defined in claim 1, wherein said load supporting member ~~includes a first and second support member~~ comprises a plurality of parts connected together.
3. (Currently Amended) The[[A]] support bracket assembly as defined in claim 2, wherein the parts of said ~~said first and second support member~~ are threadably connected at at least one location.
4. (Withdrawn) A support bracket assembly as defined in claim 2, wherein said first and second support member are slidably connected at at least one location.

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5. (Withdrawn) A support bracket assembly as defined in claim 4, wherein said slidable connection includes a pin on one of said first and second support members and a key shaped slot in the other of said first and second support members.
6. (Currently Amended) The[[A]] support bracket assembly as defined in claim 1, wherein said ~~at least one mounting brackets~~ are ~~is~~ adjustably connected to said load supporting member.
7. (Currently Amended) The[[A]] support bracket assembly as defined in claim 1, further including [[a]] hook brackets connecting each of said ~~at least one mounting brackets~~ to said load supporting member.
8. (Currently Amended) The[[A]] support bracket assembly as defined in claim 7, wherein said hook brackets are ~~is~~ adjustably connected to said ~~at least one mounting brackets~~.
9. (Currently Amended) The[[A]] support bracket assembly as defined in claim 7, wherein each said hook bracket is threadably connected to said load supporting member.
10. (Currently Amended) The[[A]] support bracket assembly as defined in claim 1, wherein said ~~at least one mounting brackets~~ are ~~is~~ forced against said object when an the item is hung from ~~one of~~ said load supporting member or said and ~~said at least one mounting brackets~~.
11. (Currently Amended) The[[A]] support bracket assembly as defined in claim 1, wherein said load supporting member includes at least one extending bracket and said at least one mounting bracket is connected to said at least one extending bracket.

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12. (Withdrawn) A support bracket assembly as defined in claim 7, wherein said hook bracket includes a first set of radially arranged grooves that interconnect with a second set of radially arranged grooves on said first mounting bracket, said grooves configured to position said first mounting bracket at a predetermined angle and vertical location relative to said load supporting member.
13. (Withdrawn) A support bracket assembly as defined in claim 7, wherein said hook bracket includes a tube member configured to mount a pole.
14. (Withdrawn) A support bracket assembly as defined in claim 1, further including a hook bracket connected to said load supporting member and configured to mount a pole.
15. (Currently Amended) The[[A]] support bracket assembly as defined in claim 1, wherein said at least one mounting bracket includes a holding member adapted ~~configured to contact~~ said vertical object.
16. (Currently Amended) The[[A]] support bracket assembly as defined in claim 15, wherein said holding member includes a protrusion.
17. (Currently Amended) The[[A]] support bracket assembly as defined in claim 15, wherein said holding member includes a rubber pad.
18. (Currently Amended) The[[A]] support bracket assembly as defined in claim 15, wherein said holding member includes a nail.
19. (Withdrawn) A support bracket assembly, comprising:
a load supporting member positioned at a horizontal distance around a vertically extending object;

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at least one first mounting bracket configured to contact said object at a first location and connected to said load supporting member; and

at least one second mounting bracket configured to contact the vertically extending object at a second location and connected to said load supporting member.

20. (Withdrawn) A support bracket assembly as defined in claim 19, wherein said first mounting bracket is adjustably connected to said load supporting member.
21. (Withdrawn) A support bracket assembly as defined in claim 19, wherein said at least one second mounting bracket includes an arcuate shaped brace and at least one arm member, wherein said arcuate shaped brace contacts said vertically extending object.
22. (Withdrawn) A support bracket assembly as defined in claim 19, wherein said at least one first mounting bracket is forced against said object when an item is hung on the support bracket assembly.
23. (Withdrawn) A support bracket assembly as defined in claim 19, wherein said at least one second mounting bracket is forced against said object when an item is hung on the support bracket assembly.
24. (Withdrawn) A support bracket assembly as defined in claim 19, further including a hook bracket connected to said load supporting member including a tube member configured to mount a pole.
25. (Withdrawn) A support bracket assembly as defined in claim 19, wherein said at least one first and second mounting brackets are adjustably connected to said load supporting member.
26. (Currently Amended) A support bracket assembly, comprising:

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a load supporting member adapted to be positioned around a vertically extending object and spaced a horizontal distance therefrom;

a plurality of mounting brackets each having first and second ends, each first end being adapted to contact said object at a first location vertically spaced below said load supporting member to thereby secure each said bracket to said object, each bracket being connected to said load supporting member at a point displaced from said first end adjustably connected to said load supporting member and configured to contact a vertically extending object.

27. (Currently Amended) The[[A]] support bracket assembly as defined in claim 26, wherein said load supporting member is adapted to be positioned at a horizontal distance around said object and spaced a horizontal distance away from said object.
28. (Withdrawn) A support bracket assembly as defined in claim 26, further including a hook bracket connected to said load supporting member including a tube member configured to hold a pole.
29. (Currently Amended) The[[A]] support bracket assembly as defined in claim 26, wherein said mounting brackets are configured to support hanging items.
30. (Currently Amended) The[[A]] support bracket assembly as defined in claim 26, wherein said plurality of mounting brackets is adapted to be forced against said object when an item is hung from the support bracket assembly.
31. (Currently Amended) The[[A]] support bracket assembly as defined in claim 26, wherein said first ends plurality of said mounting brackets each include[[s]] a tooth adapted~~configured~~ to contact said object.